Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DHA-02 ORM-02 SCS-03 SCA-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAJ-01 (ISO) W ------ 029204

R 280850Z OCT 75 FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5498 INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

CINCPAC

TAGS: CASC, LA, AU, US

SUBJECT: DEAN/SHARMAN CASE

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

D/HA FOR SIEVERTS

1. AUSTRALIAN CHARGE CALLED ON EMBOFF OCTOBER 28 AND INFORMED HIM THAT SEPTEMBER, 1974, DISAPPEARANCE IN LAOS OF AUSTRALIAN CITIZEN NEIL SHARMAN, ACCOMPANIED BY AMCIT CHARLES DEAN, STILL AN ISSUE OF PUBLIC AND POLITICAL CONCERN IN AUSTRALIA. AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY VIENTIANE HAD RECENTLY MADE REPRESENTATIONS AT MFA ASKING FOR REOPENING OF THE CASE. LAO OFFICIALS DISPLAYED NO INTEREST IN DOING SO, HOWEVER.

2. EMBOFF ASKED IF CHARGE THOUGHT IT WOULD BE USEFUL FOR AMEMBASSY TO MAKE PARALLEL REPRESENTATIONS ON BEHALF OF DEAN. CHARGE THOUGHT NOT, GIVEN LAO GOVERNMENT'S ATTITUDE TOWARD UNITED STATES, AND SUGGESTED THAT WE AWAIT RESULTS, IF ANY, OF AUSTRALIAN DEMARCHE. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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3. ACCORDING TO CHARGE, GOA, IN VIEW OF LAO INTRANSIGENCE, IS PLANNING TO MAKE PUBLIC ITS INFORMATION ON THE CASE. HE ASKED IF USG MIGHT HAVE ANY OBJECTION TO SUCH ACTION ON GOA'S PART. EMBOFF REPLIED HE BELIEVED PUBLICITY WOULD CAUSE USG NO PROBLEMS. CHARGE ADDED THAT IN ORDER TO DO SO GOA REQUIRED PUBLIC STATEMENTS MADE ON CASE BY USG. EMBOFF REPLIED THAT, UNFORTUNATELY, FILES ON DEAN CASE NO LONGER AVAILABLE AT EMBASSY VIENTIANE. HE WOULD, HOWEVER, ASK DEPARTMENT TO PROVIDE INFORMATION TO AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY WASHINGTON.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: PLEASE PROVIDE AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY WASHINGTON WITH TEXTS OF PUBLIC STATEMENTS BY USG ON DEAN CASE.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED Concepts: DETENTION, PUBLIC DISCLOSURE

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 28 OCT 1975 Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: greeneet
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975VIENTI06045

Document Number: 1975VIENTI06045 Document Source: CORE Document Unique ID: 00

Drafter: n/a Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A Errors: N/A Film Number: D750373-0359

From: VIENTIANE Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path:

Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751016/aaaaaoat.tel Line Count: 76 Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM

Office: ACTION EA

Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Original Handling Restrictions: n/a Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2

Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Reference: n/a

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Authority: greeneet

Review Comment: n/a Review Content Flags Review Date: 08 JUL 2003

Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <08 JUL 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <12 NOV 2003 by greeneet>

Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JÚL 2006

Review Media Identifier: Review Referrals: n/a Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: DEAN/SHARMAN CASE CINCPAC FOR POLAD

TAGS: CASC, PINS, LA, AS, US, (DEAN, CHARLES), (SHARMAN, NEIL)

To: STATE

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006